IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| RICHARD S. GINN |) Previous Group Art Unit: 3739 |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned |) Previous Examiner: Lee S. Cohen |
| Filed: Herewith (October 6, 2003) |) |
| For: Apparatus and Methods for Reducing Lung Volume |)) _) |

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to the MAIL STOP PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Date of Deposit: October 8, 2003

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert:

Related Information

This application is a continuation of co-pending application Serial No. 09/931,681 filed on August 15, 2001. The priority of the prior application is expressly claimed, and the disclosure of this application is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Dated: October 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

By:

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